

Development of Model Criteria for Groundwater Monitoring



John Borkovich
State Water Resources Control Board

Background

- **DOGGR Draft Regulations** released Jan 2013
- **2013 Well Stimulation Legislation**
 - Several bills initiated
 - SB 4 (Pavley) ultimately survived; signed into law
- **Interim DOGGR regulations**
 - Active until July 1, 2015
 - Includes groundwater monitoring requirements

SB 4 Requirements

➤ DOGGR Final Regulations

- become active July 1, 2015

➤ Water Board to implement regulatory program for groundwater monitoring

- Develop “model criteria” for groundwater monitoring
- Board set to adopt model criteria by July 1, 2015

SB 4

Development of Model Criteria

- Model criteria is being developed in consultation with:
 - DOGGR
 - Technical Experts
 - Public Stakeholders
- Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL) as lead expert and provide written recommendations to State Water Board staff
- U.S. Geological Survey collecting and analyzing data and information to help develop model criteria

SB 4 - Model Criteria

- **Three Main Components of Criteria:**
 1. Operator-required groundwater monitoring near wells to be stimulated
 2. Regional-scale monitoring (State Water Board)
 3. Neighbor notification (Designated Samplers)
- **Model Criteria to include (but not limited to):**
 - Monitoring Methods
 - Chemicals to Analyze
 - Frequency/Duration of monitoring
 - Areas to monitor

Project Timeline

- **August 2014** - Public stakeholder kickoff meeting(s)
- **December 2014** – LLNL-hosted meeting with technical experts and stakeholders on model criteria design
- **Winter 2015** – Board informational item on status of model criteria development with LLNL
- **Early Spring 2015** - LLNL to submit draft recommendation report to State Water Board staff on model criteria (for public review)

Proposed Timeline (cont.)

- **Spring/Early Summer 2015** – State Board staff to draft model criteria using recommendations from LLNL report
- **By July, 1 2015** - Water Board adoption of final model criteria
- **January 1, 2016** – State Water Board begin regional groundwater monitoring

Additional Information

- **State Water Board Web Site**

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/groundwater/sb4.shtml

- **DOGGR Web Site**

<http://www.conservation.ca.gov/dog/Pages/WellStimulation.aspx#Item1>

- **John Borkovich**

916 341-5779

John.Borkovich@waterboards.ca.gov

